

Feb 11, 1999-Feb. 24, 1999

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Opinion

Raising School Standards

Recently, a new standard has been proposed for the Birmingham school system. Under this system, it will be impossible for students who fail too many classes to play school sports. Much discussion over the topic has arisen, both in support of and opposed to this system. I for one think it is great.

Every year, city, state, and federal money is poured into schools from the taxpayers' pockets for the purpose of educating our youth, not for teaching sports. Recently, measures have been taken to increase the requirements of our elementary students but not our middle and high school students. I think this program is a start in the right direction.

Advocates against the program state the fact that not all students are cut out to finish school and some of those have a true gift for sports. I say that if playing sports is more important to people than education, let them pay for training their children for the major leagues, it shouldn't be done on the taxpayers' dime.

President Clinton mentioned the condition of our schools in his State of the Union address last week. He advocated his program to increase the standards of high schools. He said that on a world level, our fourth grade students tested the highest of any other country, but our high school

seniors tested close to last. This is a statistic we should be ashamed of. The President spoke against social promotion (the practice of promoting students on the basis of age and not ability) and hoped for changes that would increase funding to schools.

Both the practices of social promotion and allowing students failing numerous courses to play in sports sends a sad message of our culture. We are saying that the pursuit of happy students and state championships are more important to us than adequately preparing our students for life. Consequently, continuing education programs like the one found at Shelton State Community College were established to fight against low education standards of the past. They focus on teaching adults the skills they failed to receive in high school. We must now make changes that will keep this from being necessary in the future.

With the increasing globalization of the workforce, the standard of excellence is rising. Students who previously only had to compete with other students in America now must compete with the students of the entire world. A change must be made to teach our future leaders to be competitive on a worldwide scale.

--Chris Bailey

Roberts reviews... *A Simple Plan*

By Brian Roberts



It is rare to see a film in today's market reach the level of suspense presented on a consistent basis by Alfred Hitchcock. *A Simple Plan* is one of only a handful of films this decade to accomplish that feat.

A Simple Plan tells the story of three men, two brothers, who find \$4.4 million and the wreckage of an airplane hidden by snow in the woods. The men decide to hide the money until after the wreckage is found, and if no one comes looking for the money, divide it evenly and leave town. Things don't go as planned, however, and escalate into a powerfully emotional climax.

Author Scott B. Davis adapted his own novel for the screen, and has been given an Oscar nomination for it. His story

is brilliantly captivating, with highly believable characters put into situations that challenge their moral fiber.

The script is brought to life by director Sam Raimi, in the breakthrough performance of his career. Best known for the three *Evil Dead* movies and *Darkman*, Raimi makes the transition to the suspense genre as though he has been making classics his entire career. The film is visually stimulating, very fluid, and highly emotional. Raimi also shows his talent for working with actors by getting a career-best performance.

Paxton (*Apollo 13*) plays the lead role of Hank Mitchell. A college graduate working at a feed store in his small hometown, Hank splits his time between work, his wife (Bridget Fonda) and a new baby, and taking care of his less-fortunate brother, Jacob (Billy Bob Thornton). Usually very stoic on film, Paxton reaches his emotional best in this film.

Billy Bob Thornton is who makes this film great. Despite roles in film and television, starting with an appearance on *Matlock* in 1986, it was not until the 1996 release of *Sling Blade* that the world took notice. Over the course of the last three years, he has rapidly developed into one of the most talented men in the

business. In 1996 he won the Oscar for best adapted screenplay and was nominated for the best actor, both for *Sling Blade*. This year, he claimed his third Oscar nomination, for best supporting actor, for his portrayal of Jacob Mitchell.

Thornton's performance is nothing short of brilliant. I felt more sorry for Jacob for any other character I've seen in a movie. Jacob is a simple man who barely has the mental capacity to realize that fact. Realize it, he does, however, and that realization makes him an extremely dynamic character. Thornton brings the same original flair he brought to *Sling Blade*'s Karl Childers, showing a simple-minded man to be an extremely complex.

A Simple Plan is in limited release, and has not made it to Tuscaloosa. With two Oscar nomination in hand, it should head this way soon. I highly recommend this film for anyone who appreciates suspense that comes from true drama. Rated R for language and violence; 121 minutes.

The subject of last issue's review, *Shakespeare in Love*, brings its 13 Oscar nomination to Tuscaloosa this Friday at the Bama 6.

Future Issues

The *Courier* looks forward to eight more issues this school year: one more in February; two each month in March and April; one each month is scheduled for May, June, July and August. Let us know what you would like to know about Shelton by calling the publisher at 391-2278 or the new Shelton editorial office at 391-2406.

Keep Looking Up!

By Dr. Lee Albritton

We are treated during the month of February to a very special and rather rare event in the night sky just after sunset! The two brightest planets—Venus and Jupiter—will move toward each other until they will be practically a single point of light on the night of February 23!

To locate them, simply catch a February sunset, and they will be the two bright objects to appear above the sun some thirty minutes after sunset. Since the planets and the sun are found on the ecliptic, the two planets will be in almost a perfect vertical, straight line above the point on the horizon where the sun sets. Venus is closest to the horizon and then Jupiter above it.

Venus, the second planet from the sun, is Earth's sister planet and is almost our same size. She

gets her brightness from being completely covered in clouds, reflecting a very high percent of the incoming sunlight. The ancients noted this brightness and named the planet Venus for their goddess of love and beauty!

Jupiter, the fifth planet from the sun, is the largest planet of all and is a giant gas planet that would completely dwarf earth! The ancients named this largest planet Jupiter for their king of the gods. Today we know that the gaseous outer layer of Jupiter is primarily composed of hydrogen gas and under these dense clouds of hydrogen is a liquid layer of hydrogen. Due to its large size and clouds, Jupiter also reflects a great amount of sunlight and appears very bright.

Have fun during the month of February watching this once in a lifetime astronomical event as Venus, the goddess of love and beauty, and Jupiter, the king of the gods, come together and embrace each other in the month of Valentine's! Keep looking up!

Shelton State Courier

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The *Shelton State Courier* is a "campus newspaper" written and produced with the help of students.

Among other functions, it is intended as a vehicle for student expression and all students

are urged to participate with submissions of written and artistic material.

The college seeks to fulfill the statement for academic freedom in working with the students in the production of this paper:

"The college seeks to provide an atmosphere conducive to open and honest intellectual inquiry in any college forum which is appropriate for dialogue and student participation. The students should feel free to exercise the right to dissent within limits of decorum and good taste."

All publications are subject to review by the Publications Action Group, which has been delegated the responsibility to review all college publications for content and accuracy.

This newspaper is printed by
M&M Printing
in Aliceville, Ala. (800) 367-7891

Entrepreneurship cont'd from pg. 3

to get funds to start up her business, but she was turned down repeatedly because of her lack of experience and collateral. Her childhood dream seemed to be fading away until the Black Women's Leadership and Economic Organization, a community group that had heard of Hawkins's struggle for financial support to start her business, gave her a \$2,500 loan.

Finally, in 1988, Martha's Place opened. Due to the success of the restaurant, Hawkins was able to get off public assistance and move out of public housing.

"Never be afraid of hard work. Going that extra mile can make all the difference," said the second speaker, Dinah Walton.

Walton said during her opening speech. Hard work was nothing new to Walton growing up in rural Greene County. It was during her youth where she worked around the house and found summer jobs that she developed her work ethic.

Walton worked twenty years for the University of Alabama, but she never lost sight of her childhood dream of owning her own business. She spent many hours researching articles on entrepreneurship before she approached Phillip

Weaver, owner of Buffalo Phil's, about starting her own business. Her dream came true on Feb. 10, 1995 when she opened her first Buffalo Phil's Wings on Skyland Blvd.

In 1997, she opened her second restaurant on Hwy. 69 South. "Knowledge is the one thing no one can ever take away from you. Never be afraid to set goals for yourself," Walton told the audience. She says she never stops learning and doing things to better herself. With her own business she said she is able to inspire others to dream and make a difference.

Tim Lewis, President and Founder of T.A. Lewis & Associates, Inc., started on his entrepreneurial path at the age of 17. He started a gospel record label, JBC Records which is still producing recordings and turning profits today. Lewis earned an engineering degree from the University of Alabama. His career progressed from engineering into sales and marketing for a national long distance company.

Through his education and work experience, Lewis was able to identify a void in information and coordination between telecommunication vendors in the mid 1980s. He was able to fill this void by creating T.A. Lewis & Associates, which serves as a telecommunica-

tion consulting firm. His business is headquartered in Birmingham and has grown into a nationally recognized, multi-million dollar company.

Charles Storey, chairman of the forum, said the program was a little different from most Black History Month events. "By that, I mean that most programs held during Black History Month come from an African American historical perspective. For this program, however, we were focusing on the future," Storey said.

The three speakers had different backgrounds, but one thing they seemed to share was perseverance in attaining their dreams even when they didn't materialize overnight.

The *Courier* was able to catch up with Dinah Walton one week after her speech to get her feelings about what Black History Month means to her.

"First and foremost I thank God for all my many blessings," Walton said. "We as African-Americans should take time to remember our fore-comers such as Martin Luther King and even Abraham Lincoln who fought and died for our freedom. A lot of blood was shed for African-Americans to get where we are today, so don't ever take anything for granted."

Shelton to host Health Fair

Shelton State will be hosting a Health Fair to kick off Spring Break, Monday March 22nd from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., in the Wellness Center.

Vendors such as Manna Grocery and Buffalo Rock will be providing free snacks and samples. Information booths on Health, Fitness, and Disease Prevention will be set up in the Wellness Center.

For sport enthusiasts, the University's Bryant Museum

will be highlighted. This year's guest speaker is Verlie Dexter from the Public Health Department. Her topic is "Preventing Sexually Transmitted Diseases" at 12:15 p.m. Also, there will be fitness and karate demonstrations.

Wellness Center Director Dr. Milady Murphy said, "There is something for everyone at the Fair, and it's free! Take time to walk through and experience this!"

Shelton State Courier Poll

65%

of Shelton students rated the college as "the coolest" or as a "pretty cool" place to go to college
What would make Shelton even cooler?
(in order of students' preference)

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. More places to hang out near campus | 4. Bigger athletic program |
| 2. More Shelton activities | 5. Intramural program |
| 3. A Student Union | 6. Student Dorms |
| | 7. More stores to go to near campus |

Cool cont'd from pg. 3

selors helped me decide what classes I need. I really enjoy Shelton. The only bad thing is how expensive it is for out of state students."

Zora Thompson, of Tuscaloosa, also describes her current college positively. She says, "Overall Shelton has very good teachers, even though they have to condense the material. They seem very caring and actually want to make sure you understand the material and get something out of their class."

Stacey McPhaul, of Excel, says he is getting into the Buccaneers at Shelton. "As far as sports, Shelton has a really strong program. As a member of the baseball team, I am proud of how hard we work. The coaching is very good. I feel like I've learned a lot and improved my game. We have proved ourselves and are confident in how we stand when compared with other junior colleges."

Wes Catrett, of Opp, describes his experience at Shelton as 'cool.' "The staff and the students really support us. Their excitement makes us work that much harder. We are proud of our school and we try to show that when we are on the field. So far Shelton has been a great experience for me."

In a *Courier* poll, about 65% of Shelton students described their school as either "the coolest" or "a pretty cool" place to go to college—as opposed to a "semi-lame" or "lame" institution.

Most seemed to feel that the friendly and encouraging atmosphere created by their fellow

students and the instructors is what makes this place enjoyable.

"That's encouraging," said Student Dean Dr. Humphrey Lee. "That is exactly the situation we are trying to foster here. We have always been proud of the attitude of most of the faculty, staff and students. Now we are trying to add programs and events that will help the feeling grow and grow."

As generally positive as the student body feels about the college, there are some areas where it would like to see growth and development. After consultation with various students, the *Courier* was able to compose a list of seven developments that could help Shelton become a cooler place to go to school.

The seven were: a bigger athletic program, some kind of student union or club room for the student population, dormitories to make Shelton a residential campus, more stores in the area for students to get some shopping done between classes, other places nearby to hang out while classes are not in session, more activities for students to participate in, and the creation of a viable intramural sports program.

As far as the environment around the campus goes, that will probably take care of itself as time elapses. Rumors of apartment complexes and strip malls going up abound.

The SGA has been sponsoring such programs as a Shelton Bowling Night, so keep your eyes peeled for opportunities.

Most people would agree that it takes a whole bunch of people working together to make a place "cool."

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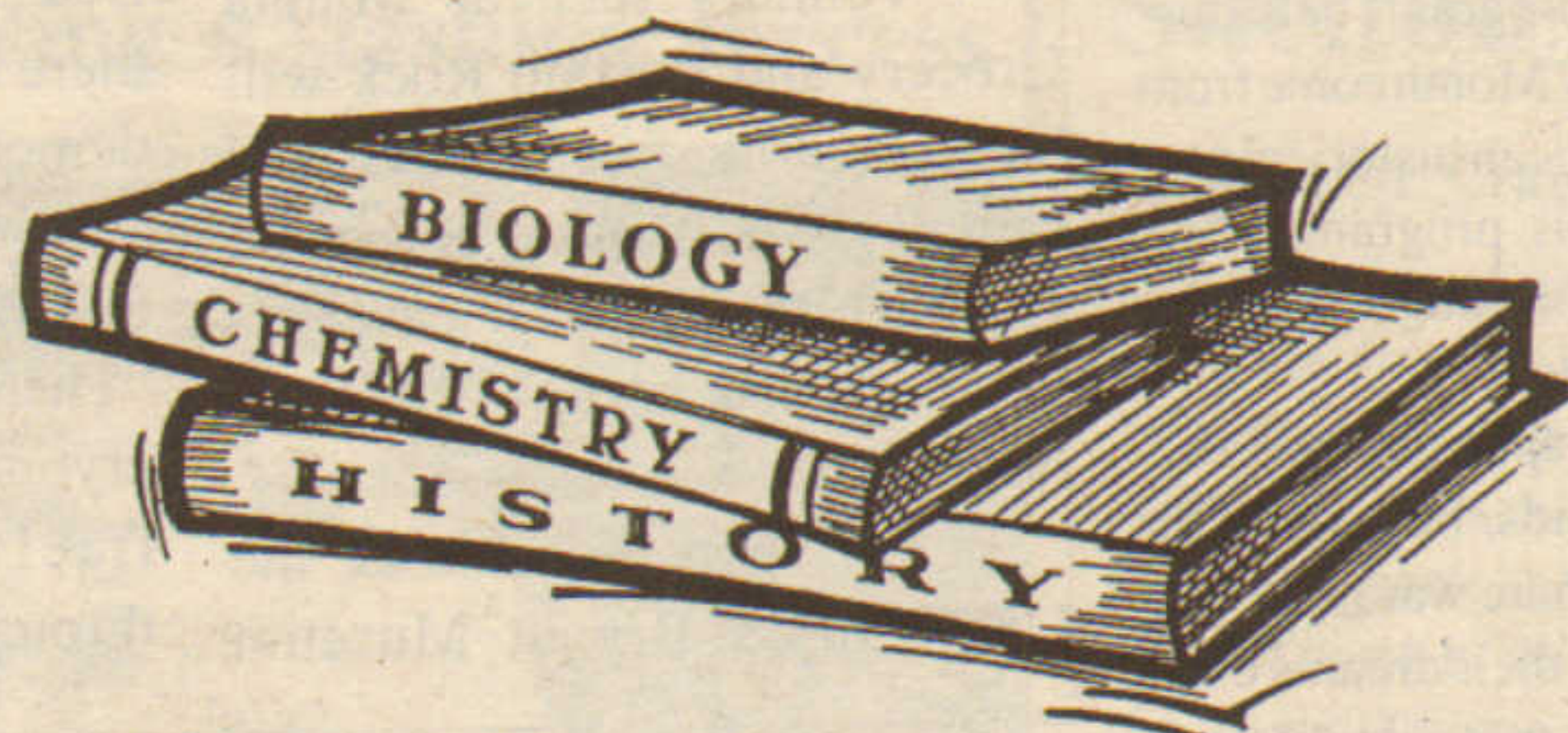
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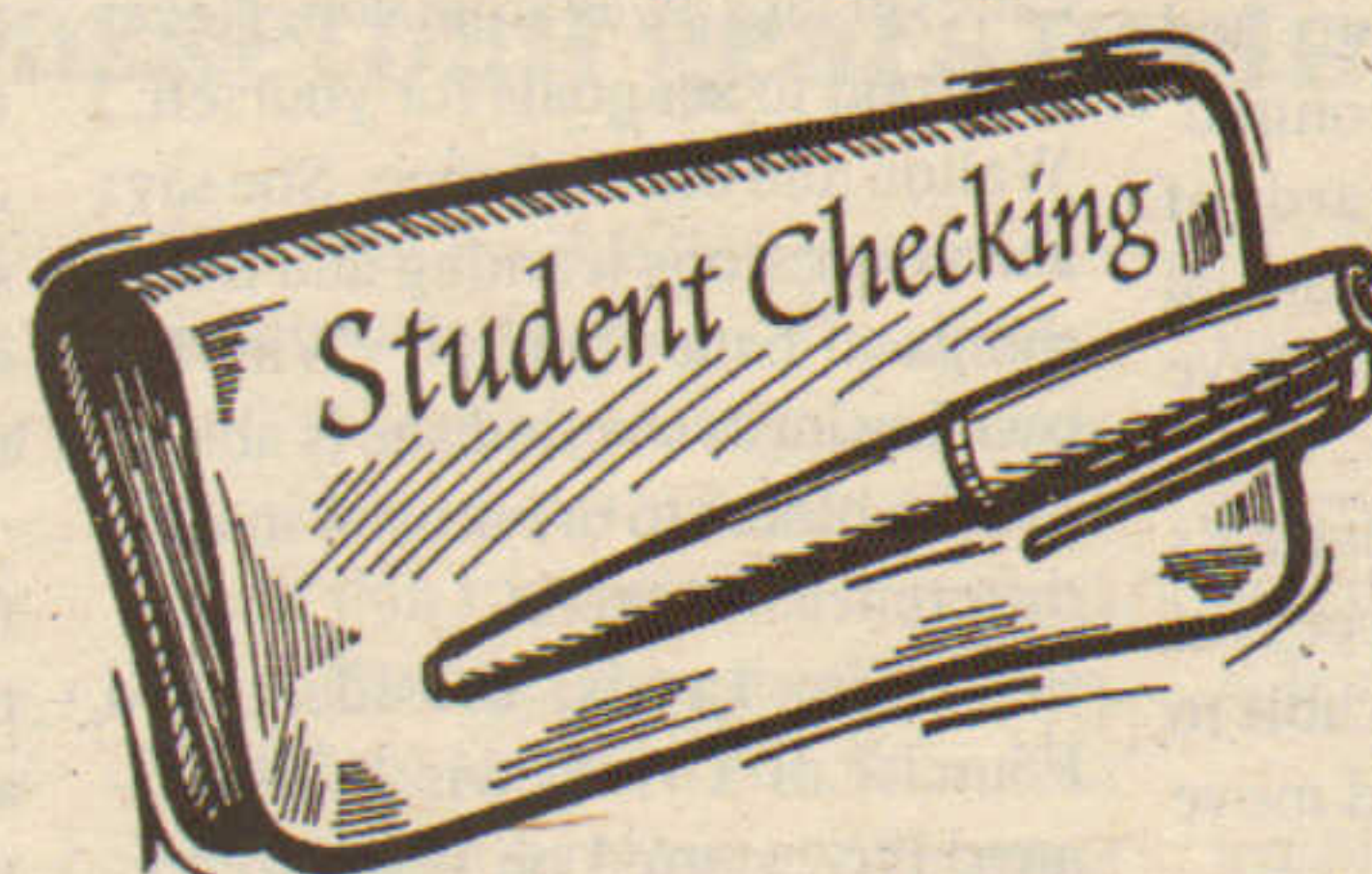
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T-Notes Stories from West Alabama's musical scene

By Kim Eaton

There was a full house at the Ivory Tusk, Jan. 29, all awaiting the appearance of the upcoming number one music group in the south, Drivin n Cryin.

Combining the dynamic down to earth lyrics that everyday people can relate to and the unique wide range of vocals that accompany Kevin Kinney's acoustics, with the energetic quality of Jeff Sullivan on drums, and the promising Tim Nielsen on bass, this group is sure to be around for a long time with their southern rock / alternative / bluegrass style of music.

The response from the crowd was deafening as Kinney, Nielsen, and Sullivan took their places on stage and opened with the very loud and upbeat "To Coin a Phrase." Catcalls and whistles rendered the air as the group performed "For You," a song dealing with love, deception, hurt, and waiting, which I loved because I

could really relate to the lyrics. Another crowd pleaser was "Drivin n Cryin," which was one of the first songs they wrote but did not record until 1997.

The crowd went crazy, and so did I, as DNC belted out "I've got you on the loose, I left you groovin.' I've got you on the beat, I left you broken ... Fly me Courageous." Other songs played include "Everything's Gonna Be Alright," which is a laid-back song, and personally one of my favorites, and is titled perfectly; the cover of John Denver's "Leaving on a Jet Plane," which was the first song that Kinney learned how to play on his guitar; the southern-rock anthemic "Straight to Hell," which is the story of a boy whose mother said, "You're no good cause you're running without love"; "Rush Hour," "Indian Song," and, in closing, the acoustic solo of Kinney in "Scarred but Smarter."

All in all, I enjoyed the show immensely and believe that DNC is one of the best groups I've ever seen perform live. I really got into the music and the songs and I look

forward to hearing them play again. I also enjoyed the easy-going atmosphere, and the amount of space available for students to mill around and relax after a hard week's worth of classes, provided at the Ivory Tusk. The staff was extremely

Nielsen began playing the guitar at age 15 and switched to bass at 17. He recalls his reason for wanting to learn how to play is because he "wanted to be a rock n roller I wanted to be rebellious."

friendly and very eager to answer any questions I had.

Afterwards, Nielsen and Sullivan roamed around chatting with fans and signing autographs, while Kinney chilled out in the back with a much-needed cigarette.

Very impressive was the quality of Kinney's voice after nearly two hours of performing. There was no hoarseness whatsoever when he spoke, which he made clear was due to lots of practice. Also impres-

sive was the personality of these guys. Fame and fortune have not gone to their heads. All of them were friendly and very helpful.

Recording their first album, *Scarred but Smarter*, in 1986, they have since recorded six more albums including *Whisper Tames the Lion* (1988), *Mystery Road* (1989), *Fly me Courageous* (1991), *Smoke* (1993), *Wrapped in Sky* (1995), and *Drivin n Cryin* (1997). DNC's fourth album, *Fly Me Courageous*, went gold and created two videos, "Fly me Courageous" and "Build a Fire" among MTV's most requested. Future plans of the group include a new independent record to hopefully come out in the spring.

The inspirations behind their songs can come from anywhere, including "life experiences, about a story that you hear on TV or a movie or newspaper or a book," says Tim Nielsen, bass player. "Musically, we get very influenced by everything from punk rock and the Ramones to Led Zeppelin, Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan, and John Coltrane."

Nielsen began playing the guitar at age 15 and switched to bass

at 17. He recalls his reason for wanting to learn how to play is because he "wanted to be a rock n roller; I wanted to be rebellious." Apart from music, Nielsen enjoys sports and was extremely excited about going to the Super Bowl.

Most of the students at the show, when asked, had never seen DNC in concert but had heard them on the radio. Chad Henderson, of Birmingham, has been listening to DNC for nearly 11 years and has driven as far as Myrtle Beach to hear them play. When asked why he liked them so much, Henderson replied, "Part of it would be that I've grown up listening to it and they put on really good live shows."

The Ivory Tusk is jam-packed with great shows, including Mindseye, Indiana Jones, and many more, in the upcoming weeks. I had the time of my life and could not imagine doing anything differently on a Friday night. Don't forget to look in the next issues of the *Courier* for info on Blindman's Caravan.

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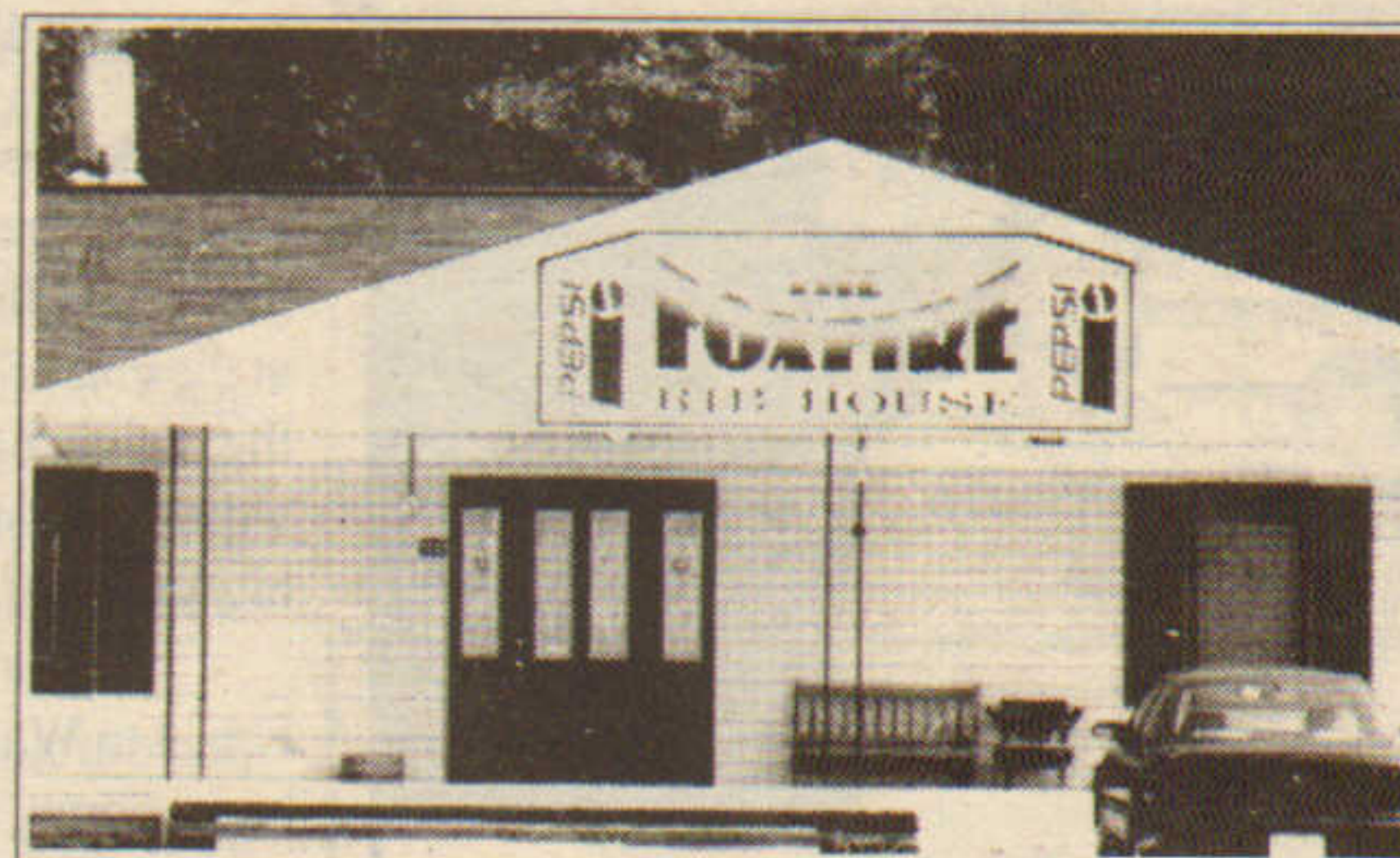
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Lights, Camera, and Action in Alabama

The coffee god makes his third movie

By JoMicheal Nelson

"O.K. everyone just relax. We've done this before. All is good. All is positive. We have rehearsed this scene four times and it ain't going to get any better. You mess up more than once while we are rolling, I will kill you," announces Christian Wannamaker, 23, on the set of *God Doesn't Smoke*, a projected 30-minute film. This is the third movie Christian has written and directed.

This is also his most expensive movie, with a budget of \$1,500. His last film cost \$300 and his first \$500. He has saved a month's worth of checks, got a credit card just for this movie, and has use of his parents' Chevron card when need be.

Christian is one of about 100 experimental film-makers in Alabama. Wannamaker, sometimes described as a "coffee god," manages Java.com cafe in Auburn; he also writes fiction. His interest as a director-producer seems to be as a pure artist.

When I arrive on the set, the outside of a Waffle House, it is about 10 minutes before sunrise in Auburn, Ala. There are 17 guys standing around smoking cigarettes and wearing dresses or nightgowns. There are 10 Volkswagen bugs parked like they were in a car accident. On a table off to the side are three fire extinguishers, two boxes of latex gloves,

and a bottle of chocolate syrup.

The story of *God Doesn't Smoke* started out as a class assignment at Auburn written the morning it was due. "I wrote it for a class and never got around to throwing it away. When ever I would go through my stuff it would pop up and I would think of something that would go well with it."

The plot of the story is about the moment in the night when you know that the party is over and the adventure of trying to get home before the sun rises. It is shot on a borrowed Super-8 and a VHS-C camcorder.

Where did you get the Volkswagens?

"There is a Volkswagen Club here at Auburn. I went to one of their meetings and asked if they would be interested in showing off their cars. They were cool about it, especially when I offered to fill their tanks and feed them for showing up so early in the morning.

And how did they feel about the dresses?

"That was one of those things where more that one of them didn't need to be asked twice."

How did you get them to agree to let you shot here?

"Everyone who contributed anything to the film is getting their name in the credits. I also let them know that this film



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Sports

—The Buccaneers are Here to Play—

"Xtreme" fencing a slashing success



Father and son Christopher and Ben Burns competed in the Xtreme Fencing Tournament held at Shelton State on Feb. 6

On Feb. 6, Shelton State's Corsairs had the first Xtreme Fencing Tournament in the gym of the Martin Campus.

There were ten contestants and a crowd of people who came out to participate and watch one of the oldest sports in the world.

"I thought we had a good turnout. I was real pleased with how the students from Hoover and those from here at Shelton did in the tournament," says Bruce Bizzoco, Associate Dean of Academics at Shelton and the fencing coach for the Corsairs fencing club.

Xtreme fencing refers to the setup of the tournament. In breaking away from tradition tournament structure, the tournament featured not only a fencing elimination round, but also a skills test, a

form test (kata), a written knowledge test on the history of fencing and agility and endurance tests.

There were winners in four divisions: Men's Foil: 1) Christopher Burns 2) John Fisher 3) Jonathan Chesney; Women's Foil: 1) Kellie Stokes, 2) Elizabeth Rock; Under 18 Men's Foil: 1) Johnathan Chesney 2) Chris Crawford 3) Ben Burns; Under 18 Women's Foil: 1) Kellie Stokes.

There were also grand prize winners. The grand prize was given to the fencer with the best total score in bouts and addition tests. Winners: 1) Ben Burns 2) Christopher Burns 3) James Newsome, 4) John Fisher 5) Stephen Hughes.

Games Coming Up

Men's Basketball:

Feb. 11 Wallace-Hanceville at Home
Feb. 15 Gadsden St. at Gadsden
Feb. 18 Walker St. at Jasper
Feb. 20 Enterprise St., last Home game.
Feb. 22 Lawson St at B'ham

Women's Basketball:

Feb. 11 Wallace-Hanceville at Home
Feb. 15 Gadsden St. at Gadsden
Feb. 18 LBW at Andalusia
Feb. 20 Enterprise St., last Home game.
Feb. 22 Lawson St at B'ham

Shelton State basketball gears up for stretch run

By James A. Crawford II

As the basketball teams at Shelton State gear up for the stretch of games leading into tournament play at the end of this month, the men ride the wave back to shore while the women must bounce back after two big losses at home.

For the women, the loss on Feb. 4 to Wallace-Selma St. couldn't have come at a worse time. The women had been on a six-game win streak at home and were eager for a rematch against the Wallace Patriots, who had beat them earlier in the season. But the Lady Buccaneers couldn't pull it out.

"We had a lot of poor shooting. We were 16 of 52 that night; we just seemed to forget our fundamentals. Turnovers really hurt us, we took some bad shots and were only

30% from the line," says women's head coach, Madonna Thompson.

The next game against Southern Union didn't proceed any better. "I don't know what happened. We let them get cheap baskets on us. They beat us down the floor. Our offense didn't get any good shots at all. We just beat ourselves, as we have in several games this season. Nobody wanted to step up and do what it takes to win. The girls are just not putting in the effort that we're going to need to continue to advance," says Thompson.

The two losses have brought the Lady Buccaneers to a screeching halt, but the season is not over yet; they still have two home games and three away to try and find that winning formula that they had just a couple of weeks ago.

The men, on the other hand, found not only a winning formula, they put it to work. In one of the biggest upsets of the season, they beat the Lawson St. Cougars Feb. 1 at home, to a rousing crowd.

Lawson St. was the top ranked team in div. I, which Shelton's sports fall under, before the loss. Not only did Shelton win though, they won it in style with a huge dunk and a two point basket by #13, Freddie Jackson.

"It felt real good to be on the other side for a change. We did what we need to make some things happen tonight," said head coach Barry Mohun.

With five games left for both the men and the women, Shelton coaches plan to use their spurs for the stretch run to the finish.

Duo the Jordan and Rodman of Shelton men's basketball

By Daniel Pettet

Just like the old team up of Jordan and Rodman, Shelton's men's basketball has its own two powerhouses leading the pack on game day.

The "dynamic duo" of Undrae Lilly and Charles "Chuck" Goodson has been tearing up basketball courts all around the state of Alabama and beyond this year.

The two sophomore players bring a level of confidence and spirit to the young team.

Lilly, from Montevallo, has consistently been one of Shelton State's leading scorers this season.

His decision to come to Shelton two years ago was based on the facilities and Shelton's style of play.

In his second season though,

the team had a coaching change, but for Lilly and the other players the situation just got better.

He seemed to fit in well with the new coach's style. "Coach Mohun is a great motivator. He gets me ready each game to play hard," said Lilly.

In addition to having a great coach, Lilly also relies on music to get him ready. "Listening to Bobby Digital (a well known rapper) gets me hyped before a game," says Lilly.

With his great play here at Shelton, Lilly's future looks bright. He's interested in going elsewhere and just a few of the schools on his wish list are: Alabama, Alabama-Birmingham, Mississippi State, and Georgia Southern, just to name a

few.

According to Lilly, his biggest motivation on the court comes from "Chucky Brown"—an affectionate name he has for his teammate, number 50, Goodson.

"I want to thank the Lord for giving me the talent to play ball and the opportunity to play with Goodson," says Lilly.

With Lilly the Jordan of the two, Goodson is most certainly the Rodman. Known for his exciting court antics and aggressive play, Charles brings the spark that starts it all.

He comes to Shelton from Anniston, although he took a long path to get here. Goodson started his college career in Chicago, Ill., playing football, but said he was recruited out of high school to play at Shelton.

Goodson says it's his football background that brings his extremely aggressive style of play to the hardwood.

He prides himself on the boards. "Every time the ball comes off the backboard I believe it's mine and I'm gonna take it."

He also likes to think of basketball as a stage and game night as his show time. He is interested in furthering his college playing career and the options are wide open, similar to his playing style.

Shelton's baseball team comes out swinging with nine returning players and wooden bats

By James A. Crawford II

With nine returning players and some fresh new talent, Shelton's baseball team is poised to take it all.

"Talent wise, we're as good as we've been in the last ten years. If we play like we should, we'll do fine in our conference, but you never know till the season starts," says men's head coach Bobby Sprowl.

Last year the baseball team had a record of 32-36, but this year looks to be even better with a lot of

heavy hitting talent.

"A lot of these players are ones that will go on to play after Shelton. We have at least 16 Div. I prospects on the team this year," says Sprowl.

In addition to the loads of talent this year, the team went to using wooden bats. This is a new approach that Sprowl says should cut down on home runs and make the games more competitive.

"Wooden bats are the big adjustment that we have to make this year. Basically, before the season all the coaches got together and decided to make a change for our league.

"The NCAA is changing to a heavier bat for the same reason. They're switching to a heavy aluminum bat with a smaller barrel," says Sprowl.

One of the new talents that will be adjusting to the new equipment at Shelton State this year is someone

Sprowl knows well—his son, John Mark.

"It's going to be nice having him play this year. It also helps out that has a good player," says Sprowl.

John Mark originally signed with UAB, but was drafted by the Cubs for a while when he decided to come back to junior college.

With the addition of new talent and the return of seasoned players the team looks to have a great season.

Terrific Tuesday Concert Series set

The spring schedule for the Terrific Tuesday Concert Series sponsored by Shelton State's music department has been announced. Unless noted, the concerts will be held in the Alabama Power Recital Hall located on Shelton's Martin Campus. The concerts are scheduled for 1 p.m. and are free and open to the public.

The spring concert schedule includes:

February 9: NATS Preview: Voice students of Glinda Blackshear and Dr. Mark Brown, Shelton Atrium area

February 16: "Fat Tuesday" Celebration, Shelton State Jazz Bank directed by Dr. Alan Blackshear, Shelton Atrium area

February 23: Piano Duo featuring Pam Gordon and Pam Penick.

March 2: TBA

March 9: Musicales featuring applied students and the Brass Quintet.

March 16: Sophomore Recital featuring Philip Barker, Tenor, and Nicole Shults, Mezz-soprano.

March 23: Sophomore recital featuring Melody Bolin, piano.

April 6: Graduate Recital featuring Nicky Wilson, piano.

April 13: Show scenes from *Cinderella*.

April 20: "Week of the Young Child," C. B. Ward, Age 13, piano student of Gail Avery.

April 27: Shelton State Jazz Bank directed by Dr. Alan Blackshear, College Atrium area

May 4: Honor Music Students.

For additional information on the spring concert schedule, call Glinda Blackshear, 391-2344.

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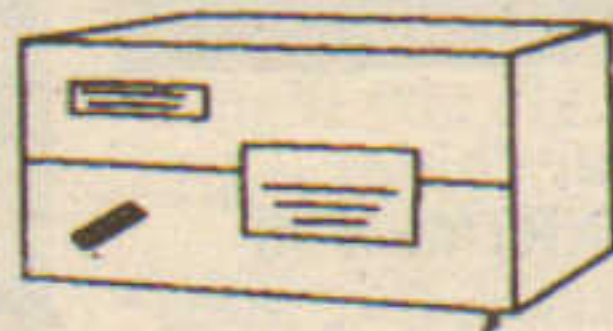
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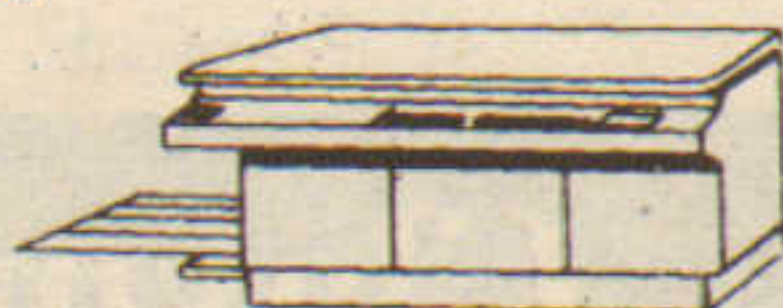


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Ain't Misbehavin', the stompin', struttin', Broadway hit, takes the stage at the Bean-Brown Theatre

Theatre Tuscaloosa presents Stage Centre Company in a production of the hit Broadway musical *Ain't Misbehavin'*, which opened Feb. 5 and runs until Feb. 14 at the Bean-Brown Theatre on the campus of Shelton State Community College, 9500 Old Greensboro Road.

The show that made Alabama's Nell Carter a star, is a salute to the music and time of Fats Waller.

Evoking all the excitement

of Harlem and the Cotton Club in the 1930's and 40's, *Ain't Misbehavin'* won every award a musical can win in one season, less than four weeks after opening on Broadway. Full of Walter's standards like "Honeysuckle Rose," "I've Got a Feeling I'm Falling" and "Keepin' out of Mischief Now," this joyously delightful musical review is a hit-after-hit extravaganza of song that just doesn't know what it means to sit still.

Directed by Paul Looney, with choreography by Susan Looney, musical direction by Mike Taylor and scenic design by Roy Hudson, the show's two-week run precedes a tour that will take the company across the state.

Stage Centre Company, the professional division of Theatre Tuscaloosa, is the only professional theatre company based in Alabama that provides top-quality, Broadway musicals on tour throughout the state. Stage Centre Company based in Alabama that

provides top-quality, Broadway musicals on tour throughout the state. Stage Centre Company's touring programs are supported in part by a grant from the Alabama State Council on the Arts.

The extraordinary feat of *Ain't Misbehavin'* is that it delivers several layers of entertainment simultaneously. On the first level the show is a rhapsodic treatment of 30 songs either composed, collaborated on or else simply recorded by the great Fats Waller. All the

Waller standards, such as "The Joint is Jumpin'," "I'm Gonna sit right down and right myself a letter" and "Tain't nobody's business if I do" are included, plus a host of nearly lost treasures.

Theatre Tuscaloosa Box Office will open on Monday, February 1st. Box Office hours are noon to 5 p.m. and until curtain on performance days. Tickets may be purchased in person or by calling the box office at 391-2277.

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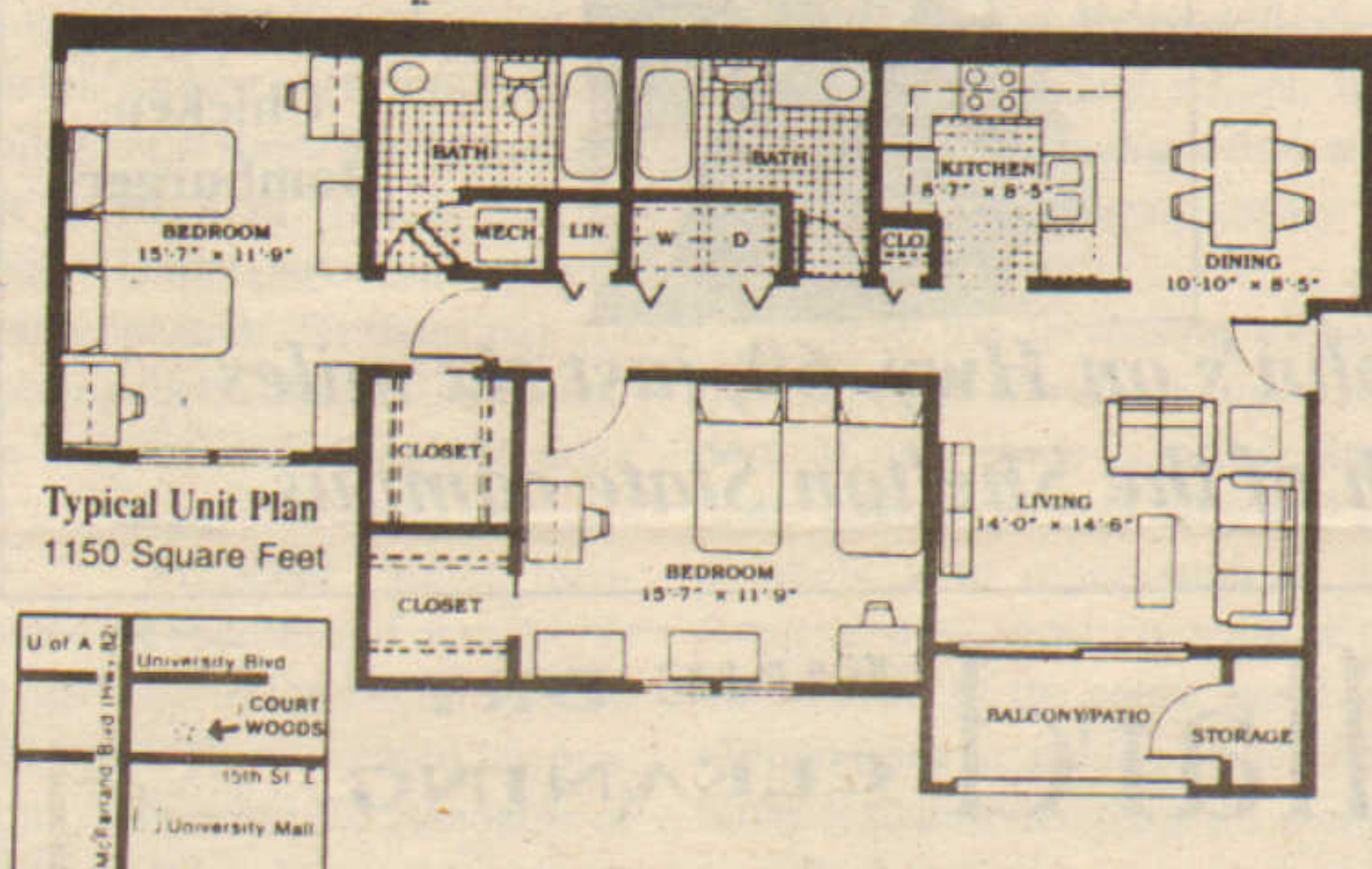
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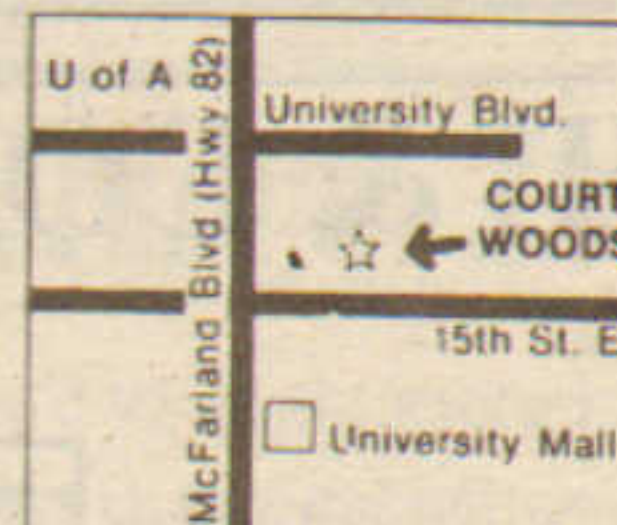
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